

Application No.: 10/518,185  
Amendment Dated: June 7, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of: May 7, 2007

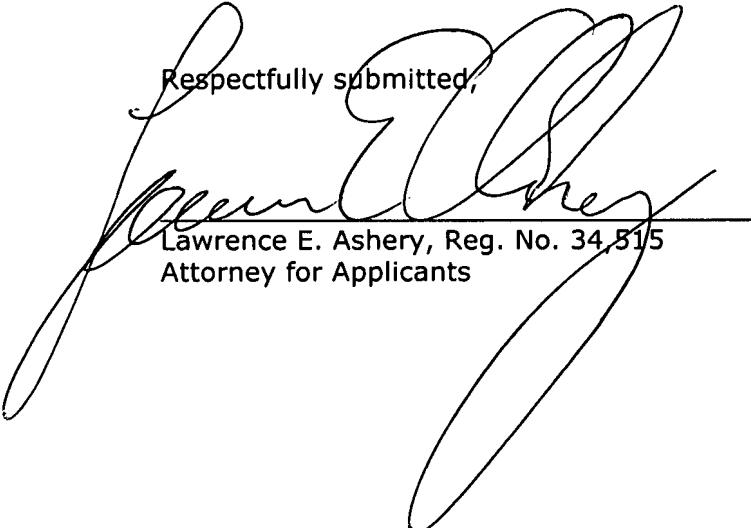
MAT-8579US

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kubo (U.S. 2001/0051504). Claims 2-16, however, were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the allowable claims that depend directly from claim 1 have been rewritten into independent form. Claim 17 has been amended to depend from claim 2. Claims 18, 19 and 20 depend from claims 8, 14 and 16 and have been added to recite features similar to those set forth in claim 17. Claim 1 has been cancelled.

In view of the amendments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/ds

Dated: June 7, 2007

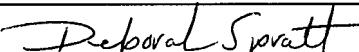
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